



JOCABE II
or a Cabinet
of Conceits
with
Poems by
RC

R. Fort

the Featherd god doth by his mirth ber ayse
the Fatall hyswifes of o lives to playe

1
mg

Jocabella,

O R
A Cabinet of Conceits.

Whereunto are added
Epigrams and other
Poems, by
R. C.

— *juvat esse jocundum
atque animum letis exhilarare jocis,*

L O N D O N,

Printed by R. Hodgkinson, for Daniel
Frere, and are to be sold at
the signe of the red Bu.
in Little Brittain.

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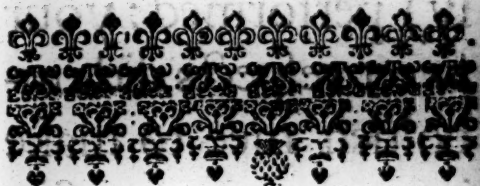
O R

A Cabinet of Concise

Whicunto are added
Epigrams and other

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To his much respected
friend Mr. JOHN

W I L D.

Sir,

BY your favor
I am come to
make good
a promise which in
this dedication is
partly (though weak-
ly)

The Epistle

ly) performed: your
sweet respects did em-
bolden mee to make
it, and now an assu-
rance of your kinde
acceptance hath (as I
may terme it) made
mee presumptuous
to performe it: you
shall meet here with
a bundle of merry
conceits, which, while
they were in my selfe,
were my owne Re-
creations; but are
now

Dedicatory.

now expos'd at all adventures to bee the mirth of others. For the readers part, I hope he is gentle, and will make a charitable construction of a thing intended only for Recreation: and for yours, if it may finde a faire entertainment, it will make me ambitious (if occasion bee) to be your servant in some other busi-

The Epistle, &c.

businesse of a greater
consequence. In the
mean time be pleased,
good Sir, to accept
of this as an expressi-
on of his love that
while he breaths will
study to be

Your friendly Servant,

Ro'ert Chamberlain.

To the Reader.



To the Reader.



*Entle Reader,
I here present
thee with the
produgements of some
vaporizing houres purpose-
ly intended to promote
harmlesse mirth. I wish
thee as merry in the
reading, as I and some
other*

To the Reader.

other of my friends were
in speaking of them : doe
but laugh at them, and I
am satisfied, for to that
(and no other purpose)
they were intended.

Farewell.



JOCABELLA,

OR

A Cabinet of

Conceits.

ONE asked how it came that Apothecaries were, many of them, so extremely rich. It was answered, they did trade with Simples; and after composition, sold them in Latine to those that understood it not.

B

2 One

Conceits.

2

One asked why Souldiers
did love beefe more then any
other meate. It was answered
because it was now and then
powder'd.

3

One seeing a man that had a
holy-day face, bid him take
heede of comming before a
Judge for suspition of murther
for, said he, Thy very face will
hang thee, it is so bloody.

4

One told a red-nos'd-Gen-
tleman that he was a coward all
over, except his nose, being
asked why; answered his nose
was good mettle because it was
Copper.

5 One

Conceits.

5

One asked a citty-Sergeant
what spice he loved best, who
answered Mace.

6

A yellow bearded man com-
ming into a barbers shop, set
himself down in a chaire, say-
ing, firra come give my carret
a turnup.

7

One asked whence the word
tumult was derived, and was
answered that it came from *the*
multum dormis & *saepo potas*;
another standing by said it ra-
ther came from *the multum potas*
& *raro dormis*.

A souldier wooing a gentlewoman, pleaded that he had undertaken brave things, and had been antient twenty yeeres ago : the gentlewoman minding to put him off took the advantage of that word, would not endure him to speake a word more, but told him shee was no antiquary neither durst meddle with things that were antient so long ago.

A Gentleman wearing one of the new fashioned coates without sleeves or cape, was asked what he did meane to weare a petticoat about his shoulders? no said the Gentle-

man

Conceits.

man it is a little coat; why fir
replied the other, I hope every
little coat is a petticoat.

10
One told a man that was
troubled with rhume, that he
must forbear claret wine; who
answered if he did forbear cla-
ret wine he should not live
long; the other told him again,
that if he did not, it would
make him blind: 'tis no mat-
ter said he, 'tis better the win-
dowes be shut then the whole
house fall.

11
One said of all trades that of
a Butcher was most strange, for
he got more by dead commo-
dities then any thing else.

Conceits.

12
One telling his friend a se-

cret, desired him to keepe it
close; close! said he, I will be
as close as a rich mans door at
dinnertime.

13
Two Gentlemen peeping
through a key-hole into a cha-
ber, saw somebody at prayers;
but could not well discern
whether it was a man or wo-
man; the one said it was a Gen-
tleman, the other said it was ra-
ther a Gentlewoman, for he
did not think any Gentleman
would offer it.

14
A Gentleman passing the
street

Conceits.

street in a great shower, was met by a water-bearer, who with his tankerd on his back, went close to the wall; the Gentleman thrusting him away, told him he did not think he would have grudg'd to have born water, being he got his living by it.

15

A Gentleman wearing a hat like a close-stoole-pan on his head, came to a promoter to move a sute, to him formerly propounded; saying, sir if you would doe me this favor, you might ease me of a great trouble: he answered (as his occasions prompted him) there's a thing on your head would ease me of a greater.

B 4

16 A

Conceits.

16

A fellow that had lost a great part of his estate by gaming, adventured once to weare an old monmouth cap on his head to see if his chance might be better; and so it hapned, for he seldome lost if he wore that cap, which occasion'd him to call it ever after, his cap of maintenance.

17

Two Gentlemen passing through Cheap-side, one of them taking speciall notice of the golden Crosse, said it might very well be accounted one of the wonders of the world; the other answered, ô by no means sir, the crosses of this world are no wonders.

18 Two

Conceits.

18

Two passing through Newgate, one of them asked why the women in Newgate did beg singing? the other answered that Newgate was a cage only for canary birds.

19

One asked whether a horse or an asse were themore worthy creature? it was answered, a horse: ô by no means said he, an asse may be a constable of a hundred, and so cannot a horse.

20

One spit in anothers face, which was taken very ill; but he that did it excus'd it, saying, pray sir be not angry, if

B 5

you

Conceits.

you please I'll tread it out.

21

One said a jest was like a Venice glasse, spoil'd if any poyson were in it, & no said another, the glasse is spoil'd if poyson be in it, because it will instantly breake, but a jest was ne're good till it was broken.

22

A Poet told a Player that slighted him, that although he was now a Gentleman, yet he had seen him act a begger.

23

A child coming from Schoole, his mother call'd him and bid him show her where his lesson was; the boy presently

Conceits.

ly turns to it, saying here it is
mother, at (*peace and quietnes*)
why yet whoreson blockhead
said she, this was your lesson
the last weeke, doe you thinke
I le give my mony for nothing:
blame him not, said his father,
though he be so long in that les-
son, for I have been teaching
of it to you this seven yeeres,
and yet you are not perfect: O
sir (quoth she) that was because
I had a foole to my tutor.

24

A Gentlewoman walking
the streets with eleven silver
laces on her petticoat, one that
stood by with his friend mista-
king the number, said looke
there goes a woman with a ju-
ry of laces at her tayle: she
over-

Conceits.

overhearing him answered, sir you are mistaken, I have but eleven; if your nose were there it would make a full jury.

25

A Gentlewoman playing at post and paire with a Gentleman, chanced to win a stake with a paire of knaves; quoth the Gentleman, what are you but a paire? no sir quoth she, but if you had had them, there had been pair-royall.

26

A merry fellow taking oares at Wefminster, desir'd to be landed at Temple-staires; whether being come, and the water being very low, they were forc'd to land him in the mud; who

Conceits.

who went away and would not pay them their fare because he had them land him at Temple staires and they had landed him at Puddle wharfe.

27

One said that silence and peace were both necessary and commendable in all games: I deny that, quoth another, for at Tennis'tis necessary to keep a racket.

28

One being committed to Newgate upon a Christmas eve told the Justice his dream was come to passe, for (said he) I dreamed I should keep a great house all this Christmas.

29 One

Conceits.

29

One said that of all men in the world he would not have a glutton to speake for him, because he was meale-mouth'd, meaning a man whose mouth was good for nothing but his meales.

30

A Gentlewoman standing in her Belcony to see and be seen, perceiviug a fellow gazing at her, began to withdraw: he cryed out to her saying, what, does the sun offend you Lady? yes said she, the sonne of thy mother does.

31

One that had had a long
time

Conceits.

time a fore nose was met by a friend, and asked how his nose did? who answered it had been very ill, but now was current: the other replied that to his thinking it was alwayes current, for he never saw it but it was running.

32

One that was troubled with fore eyes was jeer'd by another for being cleere-eyed; who answered they were not so fore but he could see a knave with them: the other replied, it may be, but you must look in a glasse then.

33

A Gentleman presenting a complement to his friend, desired
fired

Conceits.

As if he would be pleas'd to admit his heart into his service: who answered he would, if he would first let him see it, that he might know his servant from another.

34

One said he thought the wind had been a Cryer of a Court, for when he made an oyes, both men and houses stood uncovered.

35

One telling a story of a fearfull dream that he had lately had, which was, that he had been in Hell, and had been there grievously tormented: one standing by, asked him how he came to awake out of such

Conceits.

such a fearfull dreame? who answered there was such rapping and knocking at Hell-gates by reason of the often comming, that he could not sleep any longer.

36

One asking why women were so desirous to make themselves show vgly by wearing of black bags, was answered that while they did weare hats and feathers (which was a fine comely fashion) men did then but only love them, but they did now weare black bags to make men live in teare of them.

37

One said he wondred much being there was Newgate for theeves

Conceits.

theeves, Bridewell for whores,
and Bedlam for mad people;
that there was not some such
house provided for fooles: an-
other overhearing him, said
Sir, I would faine heare you
once motion a thing that were
for the common good, but you
alwayes speake for your selfe,
which is not well.

38

One being asked whether
such a man was wise or no? an-
swered he was wise with a di-
stinction, that was, other-wise.

39

One being asked what part
of speech a whore was? answered
she was a verb-common,
and required a dative case;
and

Conceits.

and a Roarer was an adverb of swearing, which was commonly joyned to that verb.

4^o
A woman swore she was as chaste as the moon: one standing by objected, as the moon sweet heart! why that is no chastity at all for she hath alwaies a man in the midst of her.

4ⁱ
One speaking of an extraordinary great wind which had done a great deal of hurt, wondered from whence it should come, or what might be the reason of it; was answered that the Spaniards had lately sown a world of pepper which made the earth so extreemly to break wind.

Conceits

42

One receiving a blow upon his head while he was eating rost beefe, said if a peece of beef had not stickt in his throat that blow had kill'd him, but that sticking there, his soule could find no passage out, and so return'd in again.

43

One said his knife spoke french because it had no point.

44

A serving man comming to be entertain'd into a Gentlewomans service, was asked by the Gentlewoman what wages he would have? who answered three pound a yeere if she pleas-

sed.

Conceits.

sed : the Gentlewoman replied
nay if I give wages I will looke
you shall please me.

45

A Justice of peace threat-
ning a fellow that was brought
before him for stealing, saying
sirra I'le teach you to steale :
he repli'd, I thank your wor-
ship, for if I had been well
taught I had stolne with more
discretion then to have been
apprehended by the manour.

46

One that had been a great
usurer had learned to dye scar-
let, and was resolved to set up
the trade, but was diswaded by
a frind who told him he would
never thrive by it, saying he
that

Conceits.

that had lived ill could never
dye well.

47

A poore Scholler walking
London streets in the night,
(who was going to a rich vnkle
of his to receive a sum of mo-
ney) a boy with a linke asked
if he would have a light? no
said the Scholar I feare no
theeves, for I am not going to
pay but to receive money: ô
said the boy you cannot find
the way thither without a light
yes said the Scholar the light-
nes of my purse will shew me
the way thither.

48

One seeing a fellow ride a-
long London streets extream-
ly

Conceits.

never ly fast, called after him and asked him what play was that day to be playd at the red Bull? who stopping his horse, told him he was an asse to aske him such a question, being it was a question every post could tell him; the other cry'd him mercy, telling him he took him for a post because he rid so fast.

49

A great glutton said he had lost his stomack and could not eat any meat whatsoever: one that knew him overhearing him, said pray heavens no poor man find it, for if he doe it will undoe him.

50

A fellow that was conceived
to

Conceits.

to be a cuckold being in a tavern with an old cook, and sitting at a table, one on the one side of the table, and the other on the other side; he that was conceived to be the cuckold, minding to put a trick upon the other, asked what difference there was betwixt a cook and a cuckold? the other answered, the table.

51

One that had the disposing of a great place was solicited by a stranger for the place, the Gentleman that had the disposing of the place asked the stranger whether he had a note under the hand of some eminent person that might testify his good behaviour? who answered

Conceits.

a ta- swered, no: then said the Gen-
d sit- tleman I must be excus'd, for it
e one is a place of consequence, and
ther if I should put a man of no note
was into it, I should be chid.

old, 52
pon
iffe-
ook
an-

One asked why a cuckold
was said to weare hornes? it
was answered because his wife
was a beast: why (reply'd the
other) should not the wife
weare them? then it was an-
swered, no; because the hus-
band was the head.

sing
ited
the
spo-
the
note
emi-
tific
an-
ered

53

A gentleman chid his daugh-
ter for wearing a cloth of gold-
waistcoat, saying she was a pret-
ty jewell; his daughter answer-
ed, a jewell (father) never

C

showes

Conceits.

showes better then when it
set in gold.

54

A Gentleman who had been
called knave by a witty fellow
by chance meeting the fellow
asked him whether he was
knave or no? the fellow an-
swering, told him, if I should
say no, I should be very un-
mannerly with you Sir; wh
unmannerly, said the other
why then, said he, I should give
a Gentleman the lye, which
would be very loth to doe.

55

One asked whence the
word *seneca* was derived
it was answered, that it's Et
mon was from *se* and *nece*
and

Conceits.

en it is and it's Anagram was *se ne cat.*

56

One whose name was *John*
 d been *Wheeler*, was asked how he writ
 fellow, his name? who answered in
 fellow, this manner,

was a *Fæmina quæ versæ est in vac-*
 w an- *cam, pœna dolentis*
 should: *Occipitis, bipes littera quarta*
 ry un- *venit.*

why----- *sed pro cognomine semper*
 other: *Est rota, sic vaccam stat canis*
 ld give *usque latrans.*

which Wherein is Hieroglyphically ex-
 oe. pressed, *John Wheeler.*

57

re th One told a ragged fellow that
 rived he was rich in rents, and asked
 's Etihim whether they were rents
 necc of Affize, or no? who answe-

and

C 2

red

Conceits.

red that he had one of so big a size, that an asse might thrust in his nose.

58

A faire Lady being at the Assizes in the Country, and seeing the Sheriffe, who was a fine young Gallant, wait upon the Judge, who was an old man; was asked whether she would rather marry the Judge or the Sheriffe? the Sheriffe said she: why so, said her friend? I love judgment well, said she, but execution a great deale better.

59

One asked why Citizens wives were so affected with wearing of hats? it was answered, because they did love to be covered.

60 One

Conceits.

60

One said a fart was a cunning fencer; being asked why? answered, because it aym'd at the heels, but would alwaies hit the nose.

61

One being asked why younger brothers most commonly were wiser then the eldest brother? answered, that the father knew better what did belong to the getting of them, then of the eldest.

62

One disputing that *omne love tendit sursum*; said it could not hold, for a whore *tendere deorsum*.

C 3

63 One

Conceits.

63

One minding to raile at a fellow that had lost his eares, was found railing at the pillory as if it had been the man himselfe: but being asked why he did not goe and speake to his face? answered, to what purpose? being that his eares are here.

64

One asking a mad fellow what his name was, had a box on the eare given him; and asking what the cause was? was answered, that it was a trick of a knave to question a mans good name.

65

A gentleman having brought
his

Conceits.

his friend down into his cellar,
his friend observing there was
no place in the cellar whereon
to sit, asked why there were
not seats in the cellar? the Gen-
tleman answered, I allow every
man that comes here, to stay
and drink as long as he can
stand, and no longer.

66

One whole name was *Cornelius*, being to declame before
his Tutor (by reason of bash-
fulness) when he was to begin,
was not able to speake; where-
upon said his Tutor, *diu expe-
ctavi Cornelium & inveni Ta-
citum.*

67

One comming to a friends
C 4 house

Conceits.

house, was made to drink: the master of the house minding to complement with his friend, said the beere was dead; dead! said the man; it may very well be dead now, for it was very weake when I was here last.

68

Some Schollers in an University grumbling because another was undeservedly made a master of Arts; one of them said, it is no great wonder Gentlemen, for you know we say *omnis creatio fit ex nihilo*.

69

A Gentleman going to take horse was observed to have but one spur; and being asked the reason? answered, that if he could

Conceits.

could make one side of the horse goe, he made no question but the other side would goe along with it.

70

One observing a young fellow to be too talkative, said *vir sapit qui pauca loquitur*; who overhearing him, answered, it is true Sir, but in you it is *vir loquitur qui pauca sapit*.

71

An earnest contestation being held betwixt an Engraver and a Sexton, whether might be the better man; the Engraver told him that he was a far better man, for his work was in brasse, but the others in dirt; whereupon the Sexton answered

C 5

red

Conceits.

- red, there was no such difference, for, said he, though you engrave a man never so well, yet in the end I shall be desir'd to doe it over againe.

72

An executioner erecting a pillory at his owne charges, expected a sum of money for every man that should stand in it; but being told by the Sheriffe that he might not expect any such thing, and that (besides) there was a man to stand in it and lose his eares the very same day; he presently swore if he saw him stand there and not pay him for it, he would have him by the eares.

Conceits.

73

One said it was the most dangerous thing in the world to commit a secret to a woman: being asked why? answered, that it was impossible they should keepe other peoples secrets close, that could never keepe their own.

74

Another was of opinion that a womans brest was the only safe place to keep a secret of consequence in; because, said he, there is no wise man will ever looke for it in such an open place.

75

A gentleman that had been a
tra-

Conceits.

traveller, being in a place where there was a Gentlewoman that told him she had travell'd as far as he; said, Lady if this be true, you and I may lye together by authority.

76

One asking what a cuckold was good for? was answered, to stand in a great hall, to hang cloakes, hats and belts on.

77

A company of neighbors being together with their wives, one of them reporting an untruth, was upheld in it by one of the women; whereupon the husband of that woman began to chide his wife for lying with another man before his face.

78 One

Conceits.

78

One seeing his neighbor newly come out of a barbers shop with his beard turn'd up into his nose, asked him why he did turne an excrement into his nose? the other answered, he would rather a thousand times have an excrement hang in his nose then in his teeth

79

A souldier that had lost one of his armes in the wars, came to a Gentlemans dore and desir'd releefe for a poor Gentleman that had lost one of his armes in the wars; one standing by told him that he that could not shew armes was no Gentleman.

80 O.1

Conceits.

80

One asked whether a woman could lose her maiden-head, yet never marry nor think an unchaste thought? it was answered yes; for her head might be cut off while she was a maid, and then her maiden head was gone.

81

One that was troubled with a curst wife, came to a justice to have his wife bound to the peace; the justice told him it were better to bind her to her good behavior, because all bonds were void where the condition was impossible.

82 One

Conceits.

82

One was telling of a purchaser that was jealous and fearfull that he should shortly sustaine a great losse : one overhearing answered, pish (said he) there is nothing in the world frights a purchaser but a prophesie of a generall inundation.

83

A Schoole-master upon a bitter cold day, seeing one of his Schollers extreemly benumbed, asked what was the latin for cold? he answered, ô sir I have that at my fingers ends.

84

A Player acting upon a stage a man kill'd; but being troubled

Conceits.

bled with an extream cold as he was lying upon the stage fell a coughing; the people laughing, he rushed up and ran off the stage, saying thus it is for a man to drink in his porridg, for then he will be sure to cough in his grave.

85

A Gentlewoman sending one of her men to bid certaine persons of great quality to dinner, her man returning told her he had commanded all the Gentlemen to come to dinner: out you rascall, said she, I commanded you to bid them: why mistresse, quoth he, have you been in the imperative so long and doe not yet know that to bid and command is all one.

86. A

Conceits.

86

A Gentleman living neere Temple-bar, sent his man to the Rose-tavern for a pottle of burnt sack; his man returning with the sack, which was very hot, desir'd his master to taste it; his master burning his lip, asked his man whence it came? who answered, from the Rose: I rather think, said he, it came from the devill, it is so raging hot.

87

A precise fellow standing at the Popes-head tavern dore, began to raile at the Pope; a drawer overhearing, desir'd him at that time to forbear the Pope; why, said he? because
quoth

Conceits.

quoth the drawer, he hath at this time a great deale of wine in his head.

88

One seeing a fellow at dinner that he did not love, wisht every morsell was steeped in *aqua fortis*; the fellow not understanding latin, asked what the english of it was? who was told it was strong water: ô said the fellow, I knew he did alwaies love me.

89

A Gentleman meeting the watch, asked his friend that was with him, what all those woodcocks did together? the watch hearing him, apprehended him and carried him before a Magistrate:

Conceits.

gistrate: who being asked why he did put that tearm upon the watch? answered that he saw so many bills that he took them for a flight of woodcocks.

91

A mad prophane fellow being brought into a Court for a witnes, the book being layd before him, put it back, telling them there was ne're an oath in England but he had it without booke.

92

A Pirat being taken by the English fleet, and kept in chains a month, at the last made an escape, and landing in a place where he had some friends, was asked where he had spent his
time

Conceits.

time all that while, and extremely chid for following that course of piracy, he swore there was no such matter; for he had all that time been a prisoner in the fleet.

93

A couple of gentlemen crossing the Thames from Temple staires into Southwark, a great storm rose upon a suddain, in-somuch that the water flasht over into the boat; but being landed, one of the Gentlemen swore he began to stink for feare; no marvell, said the other, for the boat hath bepist it selfe for feare.

94

A waggish Gentleman asked

Conceits.

a woman whether she was a maid or no? she told him yes: take heed of lying, said he, for it is lost with lying; whereupon she answered no.

95

A woman desiring money of her husband, was told by him that she should not get a penny from him without law: whereupon she reply'd, she would aske him no more; and for recovering of it by law, she would sue his purse to an execution and he should never know it.

96

A country fellow seeing a mathematician taking the height of a star with his Jacobs staffe,
and

Conceits.

and observing a supposed star to fall, swore the mathematician had kill'd the star, for he saw it fall.

97

A fellow that could not endure onions being sentenc'd to be hang'd, desir'd the Judge that he might be hangd in a rope of onions: being demanded why??answered, then the devill would not come neere him.

98

A whore complaining that she had an extream cold in her head, and that she had got it by taking a cold in her feet; was told that she was like the yeere in one of the temperate zones,

Conceits.

zones, cold at both ends and
hot in the middle.

99

A Gentleman wearing a fancy in his hat, wherein there was green and yellow ribbon, was asked whose colors he wore? he answered, his mistresses: why then, said another, it seems your mistress is troubled both with the green sicknes and yellow jaundies.

100

A Constable being drunke fell in the street, and there lay, not able to rise; but observing people to laugh at him, charged them in the Kings name to ayde him; whereupon two or three mad fellows took him up
and

Conceits.

and at the command of a Justice put him in the stocks; the Constable, when he was in the stocks (not knowing where he was) swore if they had not ayded him he would have set them all by the heeles.

101

Two Gentlemen riding by Tyburn-gallowes, said one of them, methinks the gallowes looks somewhat poorly, I think it is long since there was an execution; alas, said the other, there is no hope that it can thrive, it hath so many hangers on.

102

One said, that of all prisons
in

Conceits.

in the world, if he must needs goe to one, he would choose to goe to Ludgate; because none came there but they had their freedome.

103

A gentleman whose surname was *Bridgman*, being born in London, being asked what Country-man he was? answered, of no Country at all, he was a London-Bridg-man.

104

One whose fir-name was *Ellet*, being buried, his executor went for the Sexton, and asked him what he was to have for making the grave? five shillings, said the Sexton; how, said the executor, five shillings?

D

there's

Conceits.

there's ne're a Tailer in the
Town but would have made
an Ellet hole for a penny.

105

An old usurer being ex-
treamly sick sent for a Physiti-
on, who upon the view of his
urine, told his friends there
was little hope of life, for his
liver was so ill it wold shortly
be his death: and is that the
only cause? said one of them:
yes, said the Physitian: why
then, said he, the saying is true,
qualis vita finis ita.

106

When the Eclipse was cast
upon the Sun, a company of
people gazing at it, wondred
what the Eclipse should be; a
Gentleman

Conceits.

Gentleman in the company told them that once in three or foure yeeres the Sun did burn dim for want of snuffing, and that *Phæbus* was then snuffing it; and that was the cause of the darknes.

107

A Black-smith falling into shoemakers company, was asked by them what he did there, not being of their profession? who answered that he was a shoemaker as well as the best of them: how, said one of them, you a shoemaker? how many shooes have you made, pray? the Black-smith answered, where you make one pair I make two.

D 2

108 One

Conceits.

108

One was saying that he had
alwaies observed that whore-
masters were usually the most
plausible and faire condition'd
men that were, when they were
in mens company: another an-
swering, said it was very true;
for there was no whoremaster
but did love an honest man
with all his heart, but could not
endure an honest woman.

109

A Chimney-sweeper com-
ming into an Ale-house where
was a Gentleman in black, the
Gentleman minding to jeere
him, asked when he did wash
his face? the Chimney-sweeper
having a glasse of beere in his
hand,

Conceits.

hand, told him, Sir if you were
not one of my owne coat I
would wash you presently.

110

One said that of all cuckolds
a Huntsman-cuckold was the
most patient, for he weares the
horn, and makes himselfe sport
with it.

111

A fellow being fet in the
stocks, said he was left in a
wood, where he could see over
and under and through the
wood, but knew not for his
heart how to get out of the
wood.

112

A Scholler in his disputati-

D 3

ons

Conceits.

ons said *H non est litera*; another sitting by whose name was *Hill* said it would goe very ill with his name then.

113

One having a sullen wife which much troubled him, asked her how she did? how, quoth she, neither sick nor well; whereupon he turn'd her out at doores; and being examined why? said that he was bound to cherish her, but either in sicknes or in health.

114

A Gentleman observing a poor woman extreamly tired with a paile of graines, inso-much that she sunk down under the burden, said she was an
idle

Conceits.

idle slut, because she was too light by all those graines.

115

A Gentleman going by water, his cloake hung over the boat in the water; one passing by in another boat, said, Sir your cloak burnes; he turning about, answered, therefore I put it into the water.

116

A Gentleman having his house uncovered in a windy night, and the next morning being in discourse of it, said that in all his time he neuer saw the like; why, did you ever see the wind, said another? yes marry have I, said he; pray what is it like? said the other: it was

D 4

like

Conceits.

like, said he, to have blown down my house.

117

A Welch-man being at the Assizes, and seeing the prisoners hold up their hands at the bar; coming home, told one of his acquaintance that he had been at a place where he saw very good fortune-tellers; for (quoth he) doe but hold up her hand and they will tell her presently whether she shall live or dye.

118

A Country fellow that had a mighty great beard, spying a gentleman of his acquaintance, and observing him to passe by and not to take notice of him,
ran

Conceits.

ran to him, and taxed him for unkindnes : whereupon the Gentleman excus'd himselfe, saying, thou stand'st continually behind such a great beard that a man cannot see thee.

119

A serving-man wanting money, and remembering his cloak was trim'd round with a silver lace, rips off the lace, turnes it into coin, turns the coyne into wine, & the wine into his guts: within a day or two after, it hapned the same cloak was stoln; whereupon one of his fellows said they were bold theeves that would steal a cloak so well garded : he answered, the gard was drunke, else they could ne're have done it.

D 5

120 It.

Conceits.

120

It was demanded why that Latine sentence was true, *rara est in tenui facundia panno*; it was answered, when a man hath a threed bare coat, his wits are a woolgathering.

121

A Scholler espying the picture of St. *Peter* with the keys, and another of St. *John*, who is usually done in long haire; began to wonder in these words; what a prepostorouse painter was this! what should St. *Peter* doe with the keyes, when St. *John* carries away the locks.

122

A Gentleman meeting a
stage-

Conceits.

stage player in a sicknes time,
who had formerly plaid wo-
mens parts; told him he was
growne grave, and that he be-
ganto have a beard; the other
answered, while the grasse
growes the horse did starve;
meaning, because there was
then no playing, and therefore
he did let his beard grow.

123

A Scholler in the Univerfity
being punisht x^r came into the
buttery and made it x^a; being
asked how he durst doe it? re-
plied, it is not orthography;
post x non scribitur s.

124

A Gentleman having a large
hand, being at supper with a
shoulder

Conceits.

shoulder of mutton, having also with him a witty companion that had plaid very much upon him, swore, by this hand I will be reveng'd; the other replyed that he had sworne a greater oath then if he had sworne by the shoulder of mutton.

125

A Gentleman being accus'd for lying with another mans wife, denied it, saying, I never lay with her, but (I confesse) I kist her.

126

A Citizen being made cuckold by one of his neighbors, brings his action against the party, and layes his *clausum fregit*, do-

mm

Conceits.

mum intravit, &c. the busines
comming to a tryall, the Jury
bring in a verdict for the plan-
tiffe and a mark damage : at
which the Judge in merriment
repli'd, here's an honest man is
content to enter himselfe a
cuckold upon record, and you
give him but a mark damages?
I would you were all so markt,
and then you would better
confider of it.

127

A wit out of means meeting
an usurer, intreated him to lend
him five pounds : the usurer
answered, Sir I know you not;
the other repli'd, therefore I
ask you; for they that know me
will not lend me five shillings.

128 One

One told his friend if he would be pleased to goe with him, he would bring him to a place where they should have wenches and lobsters by the belly.

A Bible-Clark in the University being reprov'd by the Head of the house for giving short psalmes; next time he was to give out the psalme, rises, saying, sing *quicunque vult*, and so goes out of the chappel.

A poore country fellow in a black threed-bare sute, thought it some pollicy to beg
neere

Conceits.

neere an University, thinking thereby to be taken for a poore Scholler; and on a time using the phrase of *pray Sir remember a poor Scholler*, a Gentleman threw him a shilling, and asked him *de quo fuit Collegio?* which he understood not; whereupon the gentleman asked him, didst thou not tel me thou wast a Scholler? Sir I told you I was a poore one.

131

A Gentleman being at supper, where amongst other company, there was a lass newly married, which formerly had an ill report; meane time, a health going about in a soder'd glasse, the Gentleman, when the glasse came to his hand, took

Conceits.

took an occasion to say though
this glasse be mended; yet the
blemish remaines; the lasse ta-
king exceptions, said, Sir I
think it is as sound as your selfe:
whereupon he answered, cry
you mercy mistresse, it was but
a letter mistaken.

I 32

A Gentleman comming into
a friends house, was brought up
into a faire large dining room;
his dog comming up with
him hapned to foule the room;
which when the mistresse of
the house espied, she was very
angry, and told the Gentleman
he should have brought him up
better: the Gentleman repli'd,
he brought him up well enough
if he could but have behav'd
himselfe

Conceits.

himselfe well while he was up.

133

One bidding his cobbler to put him some nailes in his shooes that they might last the longer; ô by no meanes, said the cobbler, if you will have your shooes to last your life, never put nailes in them.

413

One asked who was the first noted rich man? it was answered, *Abraham*: another repli'd, and that, I think, is the reason why many rich men have been *Abrahams* ever since.

135

One seeing a man that had his beard beginning to come under

Conceits.

under his chin, said it was like
a demicafter, because it was
rough under.

136

One that had stole a watch
was pursued by the Constables;
who escaping them, was after-
ward met by the owner, and
taken with the watch in his
pocket : whereupon he said
that he had very ill luck to e-
scape the Constables and be ta-
ken with the watch.

137

A gentlewoman seeing a man
have a red face, said his face
was disparkt, because there was
no pale in it : the man answe-
red, though there was no pale,
yet there was a great deelee of
red

Conceits.

red deere in it, meaning deare
red.

138

One seeing a man have a red
nose, said, Sir your eyes are not
matches; I know they are not,
said he, for if they were, my
nose had set them on fire by
this time.

139

One asked why men did use
now adayes to weare holland
bands and cambrick boot-hose
tops? it was answered, it was
a fashion brought from the An-
tipodes, and none but Antipo-
dian Gentlemen did use it.

130

One asked why whores were
said

Conceits.

said to be light? it was answered, that many hands made light worke.

141

A Gentleman complained to one of his neighbors that his maid was begot with child by one of his serving-men; whereupon his neighbor asked him whether he himselfe was not a little guilty of it? who answered he did not know of it, but was asleep in his bed when it was done: the other reply'd, it seems you did wink at the fact, which was as bad as if you had done it your selfe.

142

One asked a Gentlewoman why she so much delighted to ride

Conceits.

ride with Gentlemen in a coach? who answered, because she did love to be shaken.

143

One said he was very sorry such a venison pasty was eaten, and said that he could find in his heart to write an epitaph upon it; another answered, he must then put up his epitaph in the house of office, for there it was buried.

144

One said to his friend, take not tobacco in that pipe for it is foule; foule! said his friend, it is dead then, for otherwise it would fly away.

145 One

Conceits.

145

One asked how old another was? he answered, three and threescore: and why not threescore and three, said he? he answered, because I was three before I was threescore.

146

Two conspired together, whereof one was a Gold-smith to steal a silver-bole, intending to share the businesse betwixt them; which when they had stolne, he that was the Gold-smith; because it should not be known did gild it over: it was sentenced when the matter came to scanning, though the other stole it, yet the guilt of the fact lay upon the Gold-smith.

147 One

Conceits.

147

One coming by a Sexton (who was making a grave for one *Button* which was a great tall fellow) asked him for whom that extraordinary long grave was? he answered he had made many longer then that, and said it was but a button-hole in respect of some graves that he had made.

148

One said a barber was an active man, for if he did once take out his wooden combe he would box a man about the eares and the man scarce feel it.

149

One said a cook of all men
had

Conceits.

had the worst digestion, for as soone as he had eaten his meat he would be sure to spit his meat up againe.

150

A great tall fellow whose name was *Way*, lay along the street drunk: one went over him, and being asked why he did so? he answered, he did but goe along the high-way.

151

A Gentleman (that was us'd to send his letters by a foot-post that was an old flegmatick rotten fellow) complained that he suffered much prejudice because his letters came too late to his friends hands: another standing by told him it was his

owr.

Conceits.

owne fault, because he did send them by a rotten post.

152

One was saying he wondred why the people in *Æthiopia* did not write straight along, as we Northern people: one answered, they writ under the line; and that was the reason of it.

153

A Dyer who was an idle drunken fellow, was complaining to a Scholler that he had very ill fortune in his busines, and that commonly those things that he undertooke to dye were spoiled: the Scholler told him that the only way to have this amended, was to re-
E form

Conceits.

form himselfe, for he that lived ill could never dye well.

54

One whose name was *Church* was telling some of his neighbors that his wife was with child, and that he never in his life saw any woman so big before; besides, told them that he feared she would dye on child-bed: whereupon one of them comforted him, saying that there was no cause to feare her death; and for her bignes, that was no wonder, in regard she had a Church in her belly.

155

A certain man was mightily affected with a woman whose name was *Wall*, which did use painting

Conceits.

painting very much, his friends did dissuade him from coming neer her, telling him they did wonder he was so besotted to set his affections upon a painted wall.

157

One whose name was *Mild* being in a tavern, tooke out a new coyn'd sixpence; who observing the company to take notice of the brightness of the peece, told them it was a mild sixpence.

158

One asked what the reason was that some women were so light heel'd now adayes? it was answered, because they did weare cork-heel'd shooes.

E 2

159 One

Conceits.

159

One having a Play-book called the Wits, which he much valued, by chance lost it: but while he was chafing and swearing about the losse of his book in comes one of his friends, who asking the cause of his distemper? it was answered that he had lost his wits.

160

One stood to prove that a Brewers horse was a tapster, because he did draw beere: another answered him, it could not be; because though a brewers horse (if he were overladen) would froth, yet he could not nick.

161 One

Conceits.

161

One reading of a Curranto, said he wondred that men did so affect to lye in paper, and yet without sheets.

162

One asked what herb that was that cured all diseases? it was answered, *Time*.

163

One being about to write the superscription of a letter to his mistresse, asked a Scholler what termes were best to give her? who told him *the Venuslasse of his affections* was a good word; he mistaking, writ to the *Venice glasse of his affections*; which was a
E 3 truer

Conceits.

truer title then he was aware of.

164

An Upholster was chiding his apprentice because he was not nimble enough at his work and had not his nailes and hammar in readines when he should use them; telling him that when he was an apprentice he was taught to have his nailes at his fingers ends.

165

One whose name was *Rapier* being a man of a grave calling, yet using to weare a white suit, was chid for not getting a black scabbard to his rapier.

166

One asked what that young
man

Conceits.

man deserved that did love al-
waies to be in a Play-house?
it was answered, a box.

167

One being at a friends house
in the night, was perswaded to
stay all night; but denied, say-
ing he would be gone because
it was moon-light: his friend
told him he thought he had not
been so lunatique as to love to
walke in the moon-light.

168

One wondred why there
were so many pickpockets a-
bout the streets, notwithstan-
ding a watch was at every cor-
ner! it was answered, that was
all one, for a pick-pocket
would as gladly meet with

Conceits.

a watch as any thing else.

169

Certain Gossips discourfing
of the company their husbands
kept; troth, faves one, my huf-
band is no fooner out of dores,
but he has as many about him
as there is to fee the great beaft
with two paire of horns.

170

A company of Country fel-
lows difputing of learning, and
what a crooked, hard, and in-
tricat thing it was to be a good
Scholler: truly, faies one, and
fo it is, for I have heard your
befl laten is in crooked lane.

171

A young lascivious Gallant
wanting

Conceits.

wanting mony, could not with his credit sell any thing: yet, his father being but lately dead, at length was checkt by some of his friends for his loose and extravagant life; and withall, told that he had base and beastly associats that did draw him to ill houses: he taking this opportunity, answered, truly friends your counsell is very good, I will presently goe sell my coach and horses.

172

A steward being set on by a theefe, who commanded him to deliver, he being a receiver: the steward repli'd, I hope you will spare me, I being a receiver also: you shall be, said the theef, if you deliver not the sooner.

E 5 173 One

Conceits.

173

One sitting at dinner where great store of rude mirth was discoursed and laught at; a prating youth clapt him on the shoulder, and asked him if he was making verse, he was so mute? (who reply'd, he was) speake them, quoth he: no, reply'd the other: why you cannot speake them in better company: I suppose so, quoth the modest man, but two fooles at once will be too troublesome.

174

A Gentleman going along the street, was entreated by a poor cripple that had wooden legges, to bestow his charity: to whom the Gentleman answered

Conceits.

swered, if he would make a
handsome legge he should have
a couple of farthings.

175

A company of Gentlemen
comming into a tavern whose
signe was the Moon, called for
a quart of sack? the drawer
told them, they had none:
whereat the Gentlemen won-
dring, were told by the drawer
that the man in the Moon al-
wayes drunk claret.

176

One that was skil'd in wri-
ting short hand, promised a
Lawyers Clarke to teach him
his skill: who thanked him
for his paines; but told him
they could not live by making
short

Conceits.

short hand of any thing.

177

One said a Civit-cat was a dainty thing to keep in a house because her dung was sweet: another said it was true; but yet it was more profitable to keep a cook, especially in a deare yeere, because he spitted roft.

178

A woman having married an old man whose name was *Edward* (whom she thought had been very rich, but not worth a penny) being asked what she had by her marriage? answered, an old Edward.

179 A

Conceits.

179

A Gentleman comming in the night to visit an old man who had a handsome wench to his wife, and suspected to be a little too light, was entreated by the old man to walke into a room; his wife having a candle in her hand, entreated the Gentleman to follow her; who told her, he would have her husband (because he was an old man) to follow the light.

180

Two Gentlemen were in a deep dispute whether the man in the Moon was a Gentleman or a Cittizen? it was determined by a Scholler, that when she was at full, there was a Gentleman

Conceits.

tleman in her; but when she appeared like a horn, there was a Cittizen in her.

181

A Gentleman in wants was advised by his friend to serve a Noble-man, that so he might raise his fortune: that was, said he, to refuse a lesser poverty for a greater; for although I am poore, yet I have my self, there I shall not.

182

A Book-binder disappoin-
ting a Scholler of his bookes
which he had to bind for him,
the Scholler being angry, call'd
him idle knave: the Binder not
long after, brought home his
books; and having received
his

Conceits.

his money for them, desired to know of the Scholler, why he call'd him knave the other day? to deale plainly with thee, said the Scholler, because I would not flatter thee: why Sir, doe you thinke so, said the Binder? yes faith, repli'd the Sholler: then I waigh not your words much, quoth the Binder, since children and fooles speak what they thinke: I, but they are knaves, said the Scholler, that speake against knowledge: indeed Sir I tooke you for one of them, and so went his way.

183

One said Tailers and Button-makers were happy, for they might get their livings, and yet sit still.

184 One

Conceits.

184

One that married a Candle-makers widdow, that was supposed to be a little too light, was asked why he married her? he answered, because he loved light.

185

One said Tobacco-shops of all other places, were the most dangerous to come into, because there were none ever frequented them, but he smoakt for it.

186

One whose name was *Pippin* being in a green suit, chanced on a Christmas day to meet his friend; who told him it was a rare

Conceits.

rare thing to see a green pippin
on Christmas day.

187

One said Glovers in the
Country got their livings most
by cutting purses, and yet they
were never punished for it.

188

A pretty wench but lately
come out of the Country in
her pouledavis and linsi-woolsey
petticoats, living in the strand,
was seene not long after in her
silkes and sattins; and being
by one of her Country-women
demanded how such might be
purchased? faith, answer'd she,
only for the taking up.

189 A

Conceits.

189

A Cittixen going out of towne with some of his neighbors to hunt; pre-thee sweetheart, sayes he to his wife, pray that I meet not a *Diana*, and so come home like to *Actæon*, horn'd, or be torne to peeces with the dogs: his wife thinking he had closely jeer'd her, and thinking to be revenged; said, truly husband whether you meet *Diana* or no, I'll take order you shall not want.

190

Certain Gallants being at a Taverne where they spar'd no liquor, insomuch that all were well entred, but one whose stomack was somewhat weaker,
and

Conceits.

and therefore lighter, did nothing but spew; and calling for a reckoning? why, sayes one of his friends, cannot you tell, that have so often cast up what you have drunke.

191

¶ A Gentleman meeting of a married Souldier newly come from the wars, demanded what charge he underwent? the Souldier replied, a Captaines: truly, answered the Gentleman, then you may helpe your wife to an Ancients place, for she can beare stoutly.

192

A fellow going downe *Ludgate Hill*, his heeles by chance slipping from him, fell upon his
his

Conceits.

his breech: one standing by told him that London-stones were stout and scornfull; it may be so, quoth he, yet I made them to kisse my breech as stout as they were.

193

A Coward told his friend that one gave him a box on the eare, and he did not strike him again, but turn'd the other also to him: to which his friend answered, sure there was a great fight betwixt you, when blows were given on both sides.

194

One asked why Prentices were so brieft with their clubs when Gentlemen were falling out or quarreling in the streets?

one

Conceits.

one replyed, it was their opportunity to be revenged on them for meddling with their mistresses.

195

One asked a Gentlewoman in which part of the house she did use to lye? it was answer'd, that she lay backwards, and did let out her fore-roomes.

196

A shoemaker sent his man unto a Gentleman who had owed him money a long time for bootes and shooes that had formerly been made for him : the servant comming to the Gentleman, told him his master would entreat him to send that little money which was due to him

Conceits.

him as aforesaid? whereat the Gentleman (rather willing to cavell then pay) in a great rage answered, Thou rogue, what doth thy master thinke I am running away, that he sends after me for such a trifle as this is? no Sir, replied the servant, my master doth not thinke you are about to run away, but he is; and that makes him so earnest with you and others that he might take his money along with him.

197

A hang-man being sued in a Court, and perceiving the business was like to goe against him, desir'd the Court to be mercifull, because he was a poor man: the Atturney that was
on

Conceits.

on the other side, told the Court that there was no cause for him to plead poverty; being he was a man that had money at use, and that besides, his place was worth forty pound a yeere: whereto the hang-man repli'd, it was not true, for, said he, you shall have it for twenty.

198

A stammering fellow being brought before a Justice for some misdemeanour, was telling the Justice of one that had abus'd him; saying that he was as arrant a knave as his worship ---ever knew: whereupon the Justice offended with the stammering fellow, asked what trade he was? who answered, a joiner: whereupon the Justice

Conceits.

stice reply'd, pray joine your words a little better together, or I'll set you by the heels.

199

One being at a supper where he was promised a venison pasty, which proved a mutton one; said, this venison? this is wise venison: whereupon said his friend, no, it is but venison wise.

200

One being asked whether prose or verse was the best kind of writing? answered, prose next verse: which may be taken two wayes; that is, prose next to verse, or prose, and next to that, verse.

201 An

Conceits.

201

An idle Justice of Peace is like
the picture of Saint George upon
a signe-post with his sword
drawne to no purpose.

202

Hee that speakes great Gun-
powder words may be compa-
red to a deepe mouth'd Dogge,
or bee said to have a tympany
in his tongue.

203

A Souldier said he had beene
in so many battels and had been
so battered with bullets that he
swore he thought he had a mine
of lead in his belly.

204

Lovers oathes are like mari-
ners prayers, when once the
F heate

Conceits.

heate is over , they are not the same men.

205

Women are like dead bodies for Surgeons to worke upon, because they tell a man his imperfections.

206

Musitians may bee compared unto *Camelions*, because they live by ayre.

207

One said it was a difficult thing to perswade a multitude (especially in a City where they are for the most part strong headed) to any reason.

208

One was called foole for asking what Country man a Plough man was, because it is knowne

Conceits.

knowne said one, they were all
borne in *Hungary*.

209

One asked a man whether he
had swallowed a Doctor of Phy-
sicks bill, because he spoke such
hard words.

210

The Philosophers stone had
need turne all metalls to Gold,
because the study of it turnes all
a mans gold to other metall.

211

One asked a Poet where his
wits were, he answered a wool-
gathering, the other replied
there was no people had more
need of it.

One

Conceits.

212

One asked whence choller was descended, one answered that she was the daughter of a great mans Porter begot of a Kitchen wench in the time of a Feast.

213

One asked another why hee loved woodcoke so extreemly, the other answered why not I as well as you, for I am sure you never goe abroad but you carry one under your cloake.

214

One asked why a Knight tooke place of a Gentleman, it was answered because they were Knights now a days before they were Gentlemen.

One

Conceits.

215

One said the Midwives trade of all trades was most commendable, because they lived not by the hurts of other men, as Surgeons doe; nor by the falling out of friends as Lawyers doe: but by the agreement betwixt party and party.

216

One said a good Client was like a study gowne, that sits in the cold himselfe to keepe his Lawyer warme.

217

One said the fees of a Pander and a puny clarke are much alike, for the pander had but two pence next Morning for making the bed, and that was a peny a sheet.

Conceits.

218

A woman was commending
a boyes face, pish quoth another
give me a mans face, a boyes face
is not worth a haire.

219

One compared a domineering
fellow to a walking Spurre, that
keepe a great jingling noise but
never pricks.

220

One said it was unfit a glasier
should be a Constable, because
he was a common quarreller,

221

One said hee had received a
shee-letter, because saith hee it
hath a young one in the belly of
it.

One

Conceits.

222

One asked the reason why Lawyers Clearks writ such wide lines, another answered it was done to keepe the peace, for if the Plaintiffe should be in one line and the Defendant in the next line, the lines being too neare together they might perhaps fall together by the cares.

223

One said hee was so tender hearted that he could not find in his heart to kill a Louse, another answered, that it proceeded only from faint heartednesse, because he had not the heart to see his owne blood.

224

One said a rich Widdow was like the rubbish of the World,

F 4

that

Conceits.

that helpes onely to stop the
breaches of decayed houses.

225

A Master spoke in a straine his
Servant understood not, where-
upon the Servant desired his
Master rather to give him blows
then such hard words.

226

Those that say gallants put all
upon their backs abuse them,
for they spend a great deale
more upon their bellics.

227

One said it was a strange fashi-
on that wee had in *England* to
receiue money with wives and
give money for Wenches ; It
was answered that in ancient
time women were good and
then

Conceits.

than men gave money for their Wives, but now like light gold they would not passe without allowance.

228.

One perswaded another to marry a Whore because she was rich, telling him that perhaps she might turne, turne said the other shee hath beene so much worne that she is past turning.

229.

One put a jest upon his friend, O, said his friend, that I could but see your braines, I would even hugge them for this jest.

230

One asked why Sextons did use to weare blacke, it was answered that in regard of their of-

Conceits.

ſice thee were to meddle with
grave-matters and did there-
fore weare blacke.

231

One ſeeing another weare a
thred-bare Cloake, asked him
whether his cloake was not ſlee-
py or no, why doe you aſke ſaid
the other, becauſe ſaid hee, I
thinke it hath not had a nap this
ſeven yeares.

232

One asked what was the uſuall
food of Citizens wives, it was
answered, though they loved
ſleſh better then fiſh, yet for tem-
perance ſake they would ſo dyet
themſelves, that at Noone they
fed onely upon carp, at night on
Cods head, and when they
went

Conceits.

went abroad a little place would content them better then any other thing.

233

One wondred much what great Scholler this same *Finis* was, because his name was almost to every Booke.

234

One asked what he was that had a fine wit in jest, it was answered a foole in earnest.

235

One hearing a Usurer say hee had beene on the pike of *Teneriff* (which is supposed to be one of the highest Hills in the World) asked him why he had not staid there, for he was perswaded hee would

Conceits.

would never come so neere heaven againe,

236

A Citizen begins a health to all the Cuckolds in the World, the Gentleman to whom the health was presented seeing him with his cap in his hand, said, what doe you meane Sir, pray remember your selfe.

237

One asked a foot-boy why hee was so affected with linnen stockings, hee answered because hee was troubled with running legges.

238

One said to another that his face was like a popish Almanack all holydayes because it was full of pimples.

239

Conceits:

239

One said it was a good fashion that was worne now a dayes, because the Taylers had so contrived it, that there was little or no waste in a whole suit.

240

One said a jealous wife was like an Irish trouze alwayes close to a mans tayle.

241

One said an *Apothecaries* house must needs be healthful, because the windowes, benches, boxes, and almost all the things in the house tooke phylicke.

242

One said a Physician was naturall brother to the wormes, because hee was ingendered out
of

Conceits.

of mans corruption.

243

One gave a fellow a box on the eare, the fellow gave him another, what doe you mean (said he that gave the first box) I did not lend you a boxe , I freely gave it you, the other answered, he was a gamster and had beene alwayes used to pay the boxe.

244

A Gentleman that bore a spleene to another meets him in the street, gives him a box on the eare, the other not willing to strike again puts it off with a jest asking him whether it was in jest or in earnest, the other answers it was in earnest, I am glad of that said he, for if it had been
in

Conceits:

in jest I should have beene very angry, for I doe not like such jesting, and so past away from him.

245

One that was justly Jealous of his Wife said, prethee leave these courses, for if thou dost not they will ere it belong make me horne-mad.

246

One said to a Gentleman that was too full of complement, pray you Sir doe not spend so much wit, if you be so prodigall of it you will ere it belong have none left for your selfe.

247

There is nothing sayes one more revengfull then hemp, for if a man once beat it, especially in *Bridewell*, 'tis a hundred to one

Conceits.

one but it will bee the death of him shortly after.

248

He that sweares when he loseth his money at gaming, may challenge Hell by way of purchase.

249

One asked which were supposed to be the two fruitfulest Acres of ground in the whole Kingdome? It was answered *Westminster-Hall*, and the old *Exchange*.

250

It was asked why fat men did love their ease so much, because said one, the soule in a fat body lyes soft, and is therefore loath to rise.

251

One asked why young Barri
sters

Conceits.

sters used to sticke their Chamber windowes with letters, because said another it was the first thing that gave the world notice of their worships.

252

One having dranke a Cup of dead beere, swore that the beere was more then foxed, another demanding his reason (quoth he) because it is dead drunke.

253

Usurers live, sayes one, by the fall of heires, like Swine by the dropping of Acornes.

254

One said a prodigall was like a brush that spent it self to make others goe handsome in their cloathes.

255

Conceits.

255

One wondred what pleasant kind of oratory the Pillory had in him, that men loved to have their eares nail'd to it.

256

One said suppose all the women in the world were like patient *Grizell*, then said another, we might make *Christmas-blocks* of the Cucking-stooles.

257

An *Antiquary* sayes, one loves every thing (as *Dutch-men* doe Cheese) for being mouldy and wormeaten.

258

One said a Player had an idle imployment of it, O you are mistaken said another for his whole

Conceits.

whole life is nothing else but
action.

259

One asked his friend how he
should use Tobacco so that it
might doe him good, he answered,
you must keepe a Tobacco
shop and sell it, for certainly
there is none else find good in it.

260

A simple fellow in gay cloths
sayes one, is like a *Cinnamon* tree,
the barke is of more worth then
the body.

261

If a man be *Cornelius*, sayes one,
he must be *Tacitus* too, other-
wise he shall never live quietly.

262

One entreated a prisoner to
doe

Conceits.

doe him a courtesie, telling him that hitherto he had found him a fast friend, and hee hoped hee should find him so still.

263

A Gentleman riding on the way would needs turne back to kisse his wife that was behind him, he was therefore commended for a kind husband in regard hee was before to kisse his wife behind.

264

One asked whether such a man were twise or no, it was answered that he was otherwise.

265

One perswaded a Scholler that was much given to going abroad that he would put away his

Conceits.

his cushion, and it would bee a
meanes to make him sit harder
to his study.

266

One said poetry and plaine
dealing were a couple of han-
some wenches, another answered
yes, but hee that wrds him-
selfe to either of them shall dye
a begger.

267

One said hee had heard the
story of St. *George* how he kil'd
the Draggon that would else
have deuoured the maid, a& did
wonder that men would devise
such lyes, for saith hee, it is held
by most men that there was ne-
ver such a man as St. *George*, nor
ever such a creature as a Drag-
gon, another answers for Saint
George, tis no great matter nei-
ther

Conceits,

ther for the Draggon whether there were such or no, pray heaven there be a maid and then it is no matter.

268

A Scholler and a Courtier meeting in the street seemed to contest for the wall, sayes the Courtier I doe not use to give every coxcombe the wall, the Scholler answered but I doe fir, and so passed by him.

269

One asked the reason why women were so crooked and perverse in their conditions, another answered because the first woman was made of a crooked thing.

270

A rich Lawyer that had got a great estate by the Law upon his

Conceits.

his death bed was desirous to give twenty pound *per annum*, to the House of *Beallam*, being demanded why he would give it to that House rather then another, he answered that he had got it of mad men, and to them he would give it againe.

271

One said Women were like quicke Sands, seemed firme, but if a man came upon them, he fell in over head and shoulders.

272

Another said a Woman was like a piece of old *Grogam* alwayes fretting.

273

One asked why men should thinke there was a world in the
Moone.

Conceits.

Moone. It was answered because they were lunatique.

274

One asked why Ladies called their husbands Master such a one, and master such a one, and not by their Titles of Knight-hood, as Sir *Thomas*, Sir *Richard*, Sir *William*, &c. It was answered that though others called them by their right titles, as Sir *William*, Sir *Thomas*, &c. yet it was fit their Wives should master them.

275

One asked what was the first commodity a yong shopkeeper put off; it was answered his honestie.

276

One asked why *Icarus* would under-

Conceits.

undertake to flye in the ayre : it was answered because he was a Buzzard.

277

Two Gentlemen talking in *Latin* in the presence of a woman she grew Jealous that they spake of her, and desired them to speake *English*, that she might answer them, for she said she was perswaded when men spake *Latin*, although they spake but two words, that still one of them was nought : whereupon one of the Gentlemen said presently, *Bona Mulier*, she replied, I know *Bona* is good, but I'le warrant ye the other word meanes something that's nought.

278

A simple fellow being too
G bold

Conceits.

bold with one that was his superior, was told he might say what he would for that day because it was *Innocents* day, it being so indeed.

279

One said a Barber had need be honest and trusty because whosoever employed him, though it was but for a haire matter, he put his life into his hands.

280

A suit in Law being referred to a Gentleman the plaintiffe who had the equity of the cause on his side presented him with a new Coach, the Defendant with a couple of Horses, he liking the Horses better then the Coach, gave sentence on the Defendants side: the Plaintiffe calls

Conceits.

cals to him, and asketh him how it came to passe the Coach went out of the right way, he answers that he could not help it for the horses had drawne it so.

281

One perswaded his friend to marry a little woman because of evils the least was to be chosen.

282

One asked how it came to passe that Hosts had usually red Noses, it was answered that it was given to them by nature to show to the world an experiment of the vertue of what he sold. *Death*

283

A vaine-glorious man was bragging that his Father and his Uncle had founded such an Ho-

G 2

spitall,

Conceits.

spitall , one answered 'tis true
but yet know that your Father
and your Uncle were the meere
confounders of that Hospitall
you speake of. *JS*

284

One said a Tooth-drawer was a
kind of an unconscionable trade
because his Trade was nothing
else , but to take away those
things whereby every man gets
his living.

285

One asked why he that drew
Beere, was not called a drawer
as well as he that drew Wine, it
was answered that Beere made
a man to pisse, but it was Wine
made him draw.

286

One said he wondred that
Lether was not dearer then any
other

Conceits.

other thing, being demanded a reason : because saith he, it is more stood upon then any other thing in the world.

287

One said a Hangman had a contemplative profession because he never was at worke, but he was put in mind of his owne end.

288

One called another Rogue, he answered, durst I trust thee with a looking glasse you would quit me and condemne your selfe.

289

A fellow that had no money in his pocket, was in a great rage with another, who told him, pray Sir doe not put your selfe into too much heat, unlesse you

G 3

had

Conceits.

had more money in your pocket whereby to quench it.

290

One being asked what Countryman he was, he answered a *Middlesex* man, the other told him, being he was neither of the Male sex, nor of the Female sex, but of a *Middlesex*, he must then be a *Hermaphrodit*.

291

One said Corne was a quarrelsome creature, because it rose by the blade, and fell by the ears with those that cut it.

292

Why doe Ladies so affect slender waistes (said one) 'tis (replied another) because their expences may not be too great.

293

293

One commending a Tayler for his dexterity in his profession; another standing by ratified his opinion, saying Tailors had their businesse at their fingers ends.

294

One being demanded the reason why he thought the greatest drinkers quickest of apprehension, made this answer: *Qui super baculum bibit ad unguem sapit.*

295

A Poet, sayes one, is a man of great priviledge, because if hee transgresse it is by a rule; viz. *Licentia poetica.*

296

The severest stoicks (said one) are the greatest Students, because

Conceits.

cause their contracted browes
are alwayes bent to study.

297

Colliers and Mine-workers,
should be well acquainted with
all the Philosophicall secrets of
the Earth, because they have
deeper knowledge in it, then any
others.

298

Tapsters said one should be
men of esteem, because they are
men not onely of a high calling,
but also of great reckoning.

299

'Tis impossible that Saylers
should be rich men, because they
are never so well pleased as
when they goe downe the wind
fastest.

Conceits.

300

A woman said of all men she had a desire to marry a Huntsman, because he would not disdain to weare the horne.

301

Of all Knaves there's the greatest hope of a Cobler, for though he be never so idle a fellow yet he is still mending.

302

The neatest man in a Kingdome (said one) is a Barber, for he cannot endure to have a haire amisse.

303

Wit bought, is better then Wit taught, because he that never bought any is but a naturall wit.

G 5

304

Conceits.

304

'Tis probable that those women that paint most shall live longest, for where the House is kept in repaire there is no feare but it will be inhabited.

305

One said that tall men of all others were most happy, because they were nearer heaven then all other men.

306

A squint-ey'd man (sayes one) is the most circumspect of all men, because he can looke nine wayes at once.

307

One said that tall men should be great Politicians, because they have an extraordinary reach.

308

Conceits.

308

One said Hang-men were very happy, because those men they do most hurt will never be able to render them *quid pro quo*.

309

It is in some sort necessary, that some rich men should bee Dunces, because the pretenders to learning may get preferment: for the good wits will be able to helpe themselves.

310

One was saying, it was a fine quality to be able to speake well *ex tempore*, why then said another, we may commend every woman, for they have the most nimble fluent tongues, and that without study or consideration.

311

Conceits.

311

Hang-men practice their cunning for the most part on good natur'd men, because they are ready to forgive before the hurt be attempted.

312

He that hath but one eye is more like to hit the marke he aymes at then another, because he hath a monstrous sight.

313

Glasiers said one must needes be good Arbitrators, for they spend their whole time in nothing but composing of quarels:

314

Carpenters said one, are the civilest men in a Common-wealth for they never doe their businesse without a Rule:

315

Conceits :

315

Of all wofull friends a Hang-
man is the most trusty, for if he
once have to doe with a man, he
will see him hang'd before hee
shall want money or any thing
else.

316

Bricklayers are notable wan-
ton fellowes, for they have al-
wayes to doe with one trull or
other.

317

Stationers could not live if
men did not beleeve the old say-
ing, that *Wit bought* is better then
Wit taught.

318

Those that carry about with
them counterfeit Coyne, are
more nice and curious of it, then
of

Conceits.

of good Gold and Silver ; for they cannot endure to have that toucht of all the rest.

319

Gunnerys are more serious in what they doe, then other men: for what they doe, they do with a powder.

320

Musquetiers of all other Souldiers, are the most lazic, for they are alwayes at their rest.

321

One among a company of his companions who had been drinking very much, by chance let a fart, who for conceits sake, said to one of his companions with whom hee might make bold, pree-thee pledge me, he answered I cannot; he then replied,
I pra

Conceits:

I pray doe but kisse the cup.

322

One passing through *Cheap-*
side, a poore Woman desired his
charity, he disregarding the wo-
man kept on walking, and by
and by let a fart: the woman
hearing it, said, much good may
it doe your worship, he hearing
her say so, turnes back and gives
her a tester; she thank't him and
told his Worship, it was a bad
wind that did blow nobody
good.

323

A man walking the street, let
a great---upon which hee je-
stingly said, cracke me that nut,
it being heard of a waggish
wench that was in a chamber o-
ver

Conceits.

ver his head , who being well provided at that time with a pertum'd Chamber-pot, throws it out of the Window upon his head, saying there's the Kernill of your nut Sir.

324

One said a Miller was the fittest husband for a Scold, because when the Mill goes , if her tongue goes ne're so fast it cannot be heard.

325

One said that Duke *Humfrey's* guests were the most temperate men in the World , it being knowne that at his Table there was never any made drunke, nor with his dyet dyed of a surfet.

326

One said *Phyfitians* had the best

Conceits.

best of it, for if they did well the
World did proclaime it, if ill
the earth did cover it.

327

It is a necessary and fit thing
that women learne *Roman*-hand
because (saith one) they were ne-
ver good *Secretaries*, nor ever
will be.

328

One saw a man and his Wife
fighting, the people asked him
why he did not part them, he
answered, that he had beene bet-
ter bred, then to part man and
wife.

329

One said that *Tobacconists*
would endure the wars well, for
they would never be stifled with
fire and smoake.

Conceits.

330

A Drawer for one thing or other is alwayes appearing at the barre, but is not punish't, yet notwithstanding 'tis all scor'd up.

331

Scriveners are most hard hearted fellowes, for they never rejoyce more, then when they put other men in bonds.

332

Smiths of all Handy-crafts men are the most irregular, for they never thinke themselves better employed, than when they are addicted to their vices.

333

Those which weare long haire are in the readiest way to make good Fryars, for they may

Conceits.

may promise to themselves the happinesse to enjoy bald crownes without the helpe of a Barber.

334

Tapsters are not onely very rash but very expert, for they are apt to draw upon all occasions, and yet suffer very few to goe away scot free.

335

Of all diseases the three-quarters harme is most dangerous and most desired: for all women desire to multiply though they labour ne're so hard for it.

336

Fidlers are very unfortunate in their calling, for they never doe any thing but it is against the haire.

One

Conceits.

337

Trumpeters are much subject to sickly distempers, for commonly when they are most in health, they will fall a sounding.

338

Horse-keepers and Ostlers (let the world goe which way it will, though there be never so much alteration in times and persons) are still stable men.

339

One said it was no great matter what a Drunkard said in his drinke, for he seldom spake any thing that he could stand to.

340

A *Hypocrite* is odious (sayes one) to God, to Man, and to the *Devill*: God hates him because
he

Conceits.

he is not what he seemes, Man
hates him because he seemes
what he is not , and the Devill
hates him, because he seemes not
what he is truly and indeed.

341

One said of all professions,
that Stage-players were the
most Philosophicall men that
were, because they were as mer-
ry and as well contented when
they were in Rags as when they
were in Robes.

342

Great Eaters are the most va-
liant men, for they never fight
but with a good stomacke.

343

One asked what the reason
was, that few women loved to
eat

Conceits.

eate egges : it was answered because they cannot endure to beare the yoke.

344

One drinking of a Cup of burnt Claret, said he was not able to let it downe, another demanded why : he answered because it was red hot.

345

A poore man that lived in the Suburbs of *London*, being owner of a little field, had got together so much mony to buy two little fields more of an acre of ground a piece, yet he was said to bee rich, because he had purchased *More-fields*.

346

One said roaring Gallants were like Pedlers, because some
of

Conceits.

of them did carry their whole estates upon their backs.

347

One said that some Taylors were like woodcockes, because they lived by their long bills.

348

An *Oculist* is excellent at sleight of hand, for if he undertake to cure a blind man, he will so doe it, that the patient shall see he does it.

349

One said it was dangerous to wrong a Physitian, because if he once have to doe with a man he will be sure to make him stinke.

350

An Inkeeper brag'd he had a
bed

Conceits.

bed so large, that two hundred Constables had lyen in it at one time, meaning two Constables of hundreds.

351

A Prison is a good instrument of reformation, for it makes many rogues and lewd fellowes staid men.

352

One complaining that his Son was a very prodigall, and that he would give an hundred pounds to have him reclaimed: his neighbour that heard him complaine, answered, let him bee a *French-Tayler*, for they make no waste.

354

One demanded of a wilde young Gentleman the reason why he would sell his land, who
an;

Conceits.

answered because he hoped to
goe to heaven, which he could
not possibly doe till he forsook
earth.

354

In the Common-wealth of
Fishes are many Officers: *Her-
ring* the King, *Sword-fish* his
guard, *Lobsters* are Aldermen,
Crabs are Constables, and poore
Johns the common sort of peo-
ple.

355

An idle unthrifft having no-
thing left to maintaine his hu-
mor of good fellowship but his
bed, sold it; for which being re-
proved by some friends, he an-
swered that he could never bee
well; so long as he kept his
bed.

H

356

Conceits.

357
Coblers may be said to bee
good men, because they set men
upright, and are ever employed
in mending of soles.

358
Two men seeing a handsome
Wench, but thought to be light,
palle by in a very poore Habit;
the one said it was a wonder to
see such a wench so bare, the o-
ther replied it was no wonder
for she was common.

359
A drunken fellow coming
home towards Evening, found
his *Wife* hard at berry spinning,
shee reprooving him for his ill
husbandry, and commending
her self for her good huswifery,
he told her that she had no great
cause

Conceits.

cause to chide, for as shee had
been spinning, he came home all
the way reeling.

361

An ignorant drunken Surge-
on that killed all men that came
under his hands, boasted him-
selfe a better man then the *Par-
son*; for said he, your *Cure* main-
tains but your self, but my *Cures*
maintaine all the *Sextons* in the
Towne.

362

A merry fellow said the Ale-
house was the onely place to
thrive in, for he had knowne
many a *score* made there.

363

Musicians may bee said to be
the best Philosophers, for they
will be sure to keepe time.

H 2

364

Conceits.

364

A woman that was very imperious over her husband, was nick-named by a neighbour and called *Mistresse Cap*, for which she angerly demanded his reason, and was answered because she was alwayes above her head.

365

Another woman with her riotous humours having undone her husband, and he being broken and fled, the same neighbour reproving her, she bade him not meddle with what did no way belong to him, for she had onely broken her owne head.

366

A Lady that was painted, told a Gentleman she desired much

H

to

Conceits.

to have her picture done to the life, to which he answered you need not that Madam, for you are a picture to the life already.

367

A Gentleman whose name was *Stone*, falling off his Horse into a deepe water, out of which he got not without some danger: his companion laughed at the mischance, and being reproved, answered that no man but would laugh to see a stone swim.

368

A foolish Gentleman deformed likewise in his person, was called by one a Monster, nay surely said another the Gentleman he is meerly naturall.

369

Conceits.

369

A Country fellow asking which way he might go to *Bedlam*, a Citizen told him, the nearest way was to bee madde, then, said the Country-fellow you horne-mad Citizens may the better direct us that are Country-men.

370

A common wench stepping into a boate, fell into the water, and reaching her hand to be helped out, one refus'd it, saying, she need not feare drowning, for for shee was so light shee could never sinke.

371

One threatned a fellow to breake his head with a stone, i'le assure you (quoth he) it is a hard matter

Conceits.

matter to breake my head with
a stone.

372

A boy seemed much delighted
with a Coblers worke, com-
mending and admiring his
workmanship, the Cobl'r plea-
sed with the boyes admiration
asked him if he would be of his
trade, to which hee answered
no; for though he loved work-
manship he could not endure
cobling.

373

One hearing a rich Gentleman
(but ignorant enough) dis-
course somewhat weakly ;
how much land there was hol-
den *in capite*, asked him if his
wit was held in *in capite*: to which
he answered no; the other asked
him againe, if hee had not some

H 4

see.

Conceits.

fee-simple held in *capite*: to which he answered yes; and that it did descend to him and his heires forever.

374

A Physitian demanded money of another for one of his patients that was dead long before, he was answered that it was a worke of charity to visit the sicke; but if he was so earnest for mony the only way was for him to visit the dead, and then he would never want mony more.

375

A rich Stationer wish't himselfe a Scholler, to whom one answered you are one already, being *doctus in libris*, nay said the Stationer, I am but *dives in libris* meaning rich in pounds.

376

Conceits.

376

One boasted himselfe to bee
esteem'd a wit, saying the world
spoke him to be all wit : one
standing by that knew him very
well, said, is it possible that you
are taken to be a wit, or one that
is all-wit, if you be all-wit,
then your anagram is wit-all.

377

A Gentleman hawk'd in ano-
thers ground, to which the surly
owner threw'd himselfe angry, at
which the Gentleman spet in
his face, what is your reason for
that, said the Farmer : I cry you
mercy, said the Gentleman, J
gave you warning, for I hawk'd
before J spet.

378

One running hastily with a
H s. sticke

Conceits.

sticke of fire in his hand to light a fagot another called him rogue, which being angry and demanding his reason: he answered for that he had a brand in his hand.

379

A patient man being domineer'd over by his wife that was flying about his cares, desired her not to teare his band for he would gladly weare it (if she pleased) without cuffs.

380

One was saying that lead was the basest of all other mettals: it is true said another, but yet it is the stoutest, for the Glasier will tell you that it keepest more quarrels asunder then any other mettall in the world.

381

Conceits.

381
A Joyner on a time tooke a pill, and it so wrought with him that he had forty stooles in a minute of an houre.

382
Carriers said one, are wise men, for they will not meddle with any thing but they will know of what moment and waight it is.

283
One whose name was Gun, called a woman whore; she hearing moved as it had him before a Iustice of peace about it, the Justice reprov'd him for it, and deeply charged him not to call her so againe. As they were going home, the woman told him Master Gun, you heard what the Iustice

Conceits.

Iustice said, I hope being so deeply charg'd, you will henceforward give a better report.

384

One said Painters were cunning fellowes, for they had a colour for every thing they did.

385

One asked why Kitchen-maids went so fluttishly : in regard they drest themselves as cleanly as they did their meat.

386

One said to his friend that had beene speaking : I love to heare a man talke nonsense, the other answered , I know you love to heare your selfe talke as well as any man.

387

Conceits.

387

One asked why beggars stood in the streets, begging with broomes in their hands: it was answered, because they did with them sweepe away the dirt out of peoples sight, which while they had a mind on, they would never part with a penny.

388

A Gentleman tooke up some Commodities upon trust in a shop, promising the Master of the shop, that hee would owe him so much money: the master of the shop was therewith very well contented, but seeing that the Gentleman delayed the payment, he asked the money: the Gentleman told him he had not promised to pay him, hee had promi-

Conceits.

promised to pay him, hee had promised to owe him so much money, and that he would in no wise breake his promise, which if he paid him he did.

389

One said hee had beene kept still to the schoole, and had been made a Scholler, if he could but have learned to have declined *mulier*, and for that cause was taken from the schoole.

390

One desired upon his death-bed to have his corpes when hee was dead stucke with *T Sop*, as is the fashion in divers places: one of his neighbors sitting by, told him *Time* was better; why said the sicke man; because said the other unlesse you be buried in
time

Conceits:

time you will stinke, that no creature will be able to go with you to the Grave,

391

One asked another what *Shakespeares* workes were worth all being bound together : hee answered not a farthing; nor worth a farthing, said he, why so? He answered, that his playes were worth a great deale of money, but he never heard, that his workes were worth any thing at all:

392

One was commending of the point-makers for good distinct readers, and that they read better then any other people whatsoever : another asked his reason he answered that since the fashion of Cassocks came up they kept

Conceits.

kept their points, and that was the onely way to make a mans reading gracefull.

393

Two Poets being merry in a Taverne, the one was desirous to bee gone, the other entreated him to stay, telling him, that if he did goe away, he would make a Comedie upon him, you shall get nothing by that, reply'd the other, for then I will make a Tragedy on thee, and in the latter end of it, thou shalt hang thy selfe.

394

One meeting his friend riding on the way without boots, asked him about what businesse he rid: the other told him that his businesse was of great importance

Conceits.

portance, and he was likewise in great haste: I am very doubtfull then, said he, that your labour is lost: why, said hee, because quoth the other, you ride of a bootlesse errand.

395

One being at Supper at a friends house, it chanced there was mutton and capers for supper: fell into a Discourse of dancing, saying, that he loved it better then any other kind of recreation, by and by, taking notice of the Capers which hee had never seene before, tooke one upon his Trencher, cut it in the middle, and put the halfe of it into his mouth: the master of the house observing it, said, Sir it seemes you love dancing very well

Conceits.

well, when you cannot forbear
but you must cut Capers at
Supper.

396

A fellow had the pictures of
the five senses stolne out of his
house, whereupon he came to
a Iustice, and desired that the
Theeves might be bound to the
peace, for what said the Iustice,
for stealing your pictures: yes
saith he; I thought said the Ju-
stice, you had lost your senses,
that you talke so idly.

397

One amongst a croud of peo-
ple on the top of Pauls Steeple,
had his pocket pick't: what vil-
laines are these quoth he, to pick
a mans pocket in the Church:
nay Sir said another, you are bur
rob'd

Conceits.

rob'd upon the High-way.

398

One complained he knew not how to maintaine his barns: be a good husband quoth another, and your barnes will maintaine you.

399

A rude deboist young man was placed by his friends with a Proctor, who observing the misbehaviour of the yong man, told his Parents he feared their Sonne would never make a civill Lawyer.

400

In some merry company one bid another mend his Iests, for they were all crack't: they ought to be so, said he, for it is no jest till it be broken.

One

Conceits.

402

One sitting by the fire to take Tobacco, said the fire was his friend, and presently spet into it: to which one replied you doe not well to quench your friends love by spetting in his face.

403

Two Schollers walking along a River, were stiffely arguing a point, and wish'd for a moderator, or a booke of some authority: one of them presently espying an angler sitting on a Tree, cryed out, wee have our wish ! for yonder is *Piscator* upon *ramus*.

404

A Gentleman shewing a yong student a part of *Scotus*, wherein was these words, *Dominus Scotus*

in

Conceits.

in sententia, and asked him if it was not *Dance Scotus*? No, replied the Scholler that wou not be; except V be there,

405

One said Gallants had reason to be good Schollers, because they were deep in many books.

406

One seeing a Printed booke, that was but one sheet of paper, said it was not necessary for any man to libell it, for it did penance in a sheet already.

407

One asked which of the letters in the Alphabet were the most authentique in a Bill or Bond: it was answered, I O U.

408

Concepts,

408

One asked why men and their wives did not agree better now adayes: it was answered, men were now more learned, and did know that it was false concord, that the masculine and feminine gender should agree at all.

409

Two being in a Taverne, the one swore the other should pledge him: why then, quoth the other, I will, who went presently downe the staires, and left him as a pledge for the reckoning.

410

One asked wherefore a drum was in the wars: it was answered to stirre up valours in the Soldiers, that is strange, said the

Conceits.

the other, for wheresoever the victory falls the Drums are sure to be beaten.

411

One asked why B stood before C: because said another, a man must B before he can C.

412

One asked how long the longest letter in the *English* Alphabet was: it was answered an L long.

413

One asked why some Gentlewomen wore Feathers in their Hats: it was answered because they were light-headed.

414

One looking upon a scollish booke, asked why *Finis* was not

at

Conceits.

at the end of it ? another that stood by , answered , because there was no end of idle bookes.

415

A Country fellow looking into a Scriveners shop, and seeing nothing in the shop but a deske and a boy sitting at it : asked what they sold ? The boy answered Logger-heads ; the fellow replied, it seemes you have good custome for them, for you have but one left in the shop.

416

A drunken fellow comming by a shop, asked a Prentice-boy what their signe was, hee answered, it was a signe he was drunk.

417

Conceits.

417

One asked how it was possible a woman could have a face like a swine? it was answered, that her father was a great eater of brawne, and her mother of swines cheek, and that she was begot a little before dinner, when they had both a mind of of their victuals.

418

One meeting a mad fellow pittifully drunke, asked him whither he was going? to th' tavern, said he: no, reply'd the other, drunkennes is the way to hell, and thither you are now going: ô said the drunkard, I ne're feare that, for I'm so drunke, that my legs

I

are

Conceits.

are not able to carry me so far.

419

A Gentlewoman taxing one of her serving-men for telling her a lye, was thus answered; O mistresse, doe you think I am such a sawcy knave as to offer to lye with you! heavens forbid.

420

One said a mad cholerick man was no wiser then a horse; being asked why? answered, because he could not bridle himselfe.

421

One asking which was the way to the devill? meaning the Devill-tavern; was answered, you

Conceits.

you must leave the Temple.

422

One having taken phisick for being extraordinarily bound, told his Physitian he had done him but little good; whereupon his Physitian answered, that the constitution of mens bodies was much alike to their purses; for if the purse was bound, the body would ne're be loose.

423

One told a fat man that was thought to be an extream wench, that he was given to the flesh: ô no, said the fat man, the flesh is given to me.

I 2

424 One

Conceits.

424

One being asked by a Tailer what place in London was the best for a Tailer to set up in? answered, in *Bread-street*.

425

One said he wondred at nothing more then that the moon was not lousie, because she changed but once in a month.

426

One being asked whether a meere proper man was good or no? answered, yes: being asked for what? answered, nothing.

427

One speaking of *Copernicus*
his

Conceits.

his opinion concerning the motion of the Earth and Sea, and the standing still of the heavens; a witty fellow overhearing it, said, sure *Copernicus* was in some ship under sayle, and neere the shore, when he writ that opinion.

428

One speaking of himselfe in jest, that he was perswaded he did not waigh above a pound; why then, said another, you are an *As*, which is the latin for a pound waight.

429

An old rich carrier, now dead, was us'd, when he came into an Inne, to be kindly saluted by the Chamberlens with

I 3

the

Conceits.

the word (welcome) whereto
he did alwaies use to answer,
God a mercy, my good friend;
and in the meane while clap
his hand upon his mony pouch.

430

One asked from whence
these strange fashions of cloaks
without capes came? another
answered, that the fashion was
very far fetcht, for it was fetcht
from the Cape.

431

A cuckold being in compa-
ny with a poet was desiring
him to make a paper of verses
on him: whereupon the poet
told him, yes; and they should
be good ones, for he never
looked on him but he thought
he

Conceits.

he saw the forked Hill.

432

A Courtier riding in his foot-cloth, being requested by a poore man to extend his charity, asked him what trade he was? who answered, a beggar: a beggar, said he! how long hath that been a trade? he reply'd, ever since such as you had good clothes, and rid up and downe with a foot-cloth.

433

One said, a butchers boy was like a woman-slave in *Turkey*, which carried flesh to get his master a living.

434

An old man that had us'd

I 4

spectacles

Conceits.

spectacles a long time, was telling his friend, that notwithstanding his spectacles, he was not able to read above an houre; his friend answered, that the reason of it was, his spectacles were made of an houre-glasse.

435

A Player that was to act *Pan* the shepheards god, as he was entring, was observed by reason of the coldnes of the weather to have a dropping nose: who, when he was told of it, answered, it was well that you told me, for otherwise I had acted a dripping-pan.

436

One complementing with a
Gentle-

Conceits.

Gentlewoman, telling her that if she pleased he would not only be her servant, but to doe her a courtesie, could be content to part with a peece of his flesh : who answer'd, she thank'd him very kindly, but she never lov'd veale in her life.

437

One asked what he was that was a Pander to his owne wife? it was answered, a pickforke.

438

A Herald comming into a gentlemans roome, and observing upon the walls a coat of Armes of the Gentlemans which the Gentleman could not justifie, took a candle and set it on fire; a servant comming in, asked

I 5. him

Conceits.

him what he did meane? who answered, no hurt; he was but blazing his masters coat.

439

A man and his wife being taken on suspicion of felony, and bound over; the woman appear'd, but not the man: the Judge asking the cause? the woman answered, that her husband was so sick he could not come without danger of his life: whereupon the Judge reply'd, I do beleeeve it, for if he doe appeare, there's no question but he will be hang'd.

440

Two Gentlemen being together in a friends house neere Temple-bar, sent to the devill-tavern

Conceits.

tavern for a pottle of claret which was brought accordingly; one of them desir'd it might be burnt; ô by no means, said the other, it must needs be hot enough, for it came from the devill.

441

One being in the Lent time at a friends house, the woman of the house not having where-with to entertaine him, sent her maid to desire the next neighbor to lend her a pound of bacon; which the Gentleman overhearing, when the bacon came to be set before him, said he would eat none: being demanded why? answered, because it was lent.

442 A.

Conceits.

442

A Lawyer pleading before a Judge, and not speaking to the purpose, the Judge interrupting him, bid him hold his peace; the Lawyer desir'd the Judge to hear him out; whereupon the Judge reply'd, he had heard him out all that while.

443

A fellow brought before a Judge for stealing a watch, the Judge perceiving that he was a little too severely prosecuted against, resolv'd within himself to save him; and to that purpose put the Jury to value the materialls whereof the watch was made; which was valued at sixpence : the party wronged
said

Conceits.

said, the fashion (my Lord)
stands me in five pounds; ô said
the Judge, it matters not, we
must not hang men for fashion
fake.

444

One that was every spring
extreamly bound in his body,
insomuch that if he did not
helpe it with physick he should
surely dye ; was us'd to say,
that he was bound on paine of
death to take physick once a
yeere.

445

A servitor in the University
carrying a neats tounge to the
Rectors table in the Colledge,
let it fall by the way; for which
being checkt, he made answer,
lapsus

Conceits.

lapsus linguae non est error mentis.

446

A Gentleman in the University having his Commons brought cold to him, bid his servitor goe and heate them; who went presently behind the screen and eat them: the Gentleman long expecting the commons, at length called the servitor, and asked him where his Commons were? he answer'd, I have done as you bid me: no, said the Gentleman, I did not bid you eat them, I bid you heat them: 'tis true Sir, said the servitor, but you know, *h non est litera.*

447 Some

Conceits.

447

Some fisher-men being got out to fish, and seeing they were not able to get any thing, fell to louzing themselves; at length returning, and being asked what they had caught? answer'd, what they had caught they had left behind them, and what they could not catch they had brought with them.

448

A painter whose name was *Horses* comming into another painters shop where the picture of *Phaeton* was, riding in his chariot, slighted the peece extremely; the other standing upon his workmanship, said, he would maintain it was done
to

Conceits.

to the life : rather you have drawn him to the death, reply'd he ; ô by no meanes, said he , Horses drew him to the death.

449

A witty Gentleman wearing an extraordinary short cloake, observing himselfe to be jeer'd at for it, answer'd, it should be long enough before he had another.

450

A fellow fearing a tryall would passe against him, said to the Judge , good my Lord let me have but your opinion, I will wait upon your Lordship for your judgment some other time.

451 A

Conceits.

451

A Country woman making puddings had set them on the fire to seeth, and bad a child looke to them, and when he did see them begin to dance, bad the boy call her: she wondering a great while that the boy did not call her, asked him whether they did not yet dance? no, quoth the boy, but they will doe presently: how knowst thou that? yes quoth the child, for they have put off their coats already.

452

A Cambridge Scholler being asked why the Towns-mens children were so witty when they were young, and blockish when

Conceits.

when they were old? answer'd
that Schollers got them, and
Townf-men bred them.

453

One asked whence the word
Interpreter was derived? it was
answered, *quasi Inter-prater*, for
one that prated betwixt two
that spake severall languages.

454

One asked why Chamber-
maids were more troubled with
the green sicknes then other
women? it was answered, be-
cause they used to lye at their
masters beds-feet.

455

One asked what beast in
the world might be said to
have

Conceits.

have the best understanding?
it was answered, a Cuckold.

456

A maid told her Mistresse
she must entreat her to keepe
more maids, because she was
much overlaid.

457

One whose husbands name
was *Beane*, being delivered of
two children at a burden, told
the midwife she had been so
troubled with wind all the time
she was with child, that she
wondred at it : the midwife
said it was no marvell, in regard
her belly so long had been full
of beanes.

458 One

Conceits.

458

One speaking of a drunken fellow, said that he knew him drunke for a weeke together; that's nothing, said his friend, for I have heard of people that were drunke ten yeeres together: who were those, said he? the Grecians and the Trojans quoth the other, for if they had not, they would ne're have been so mad as to have fought so long about a whore.

459

Printers (sayes one) are the most lawlesse men in a Kingdome, for they commit faults *cum privilegio.*

Poems.

